

recite "transferring information between a subscriber and an information source or recipient as part of a wireless service". The Applicant respectfully submits that this amendment addresses the perceived inconsistency in claim 1 according to the Examiner's interpretation. Withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1, and of claims 2-11 and 22 dependent thereon, under sec. 112 is accordingly respectfully requested.

Par. 3 of the Office Action further states, with respect to claim 12, that "it is not clear from the body of the claim if the alternative network is used to communicate with the wireless services list." Lines 6 and 7 of claim 12 recite "communicating the wireless services list and the corresponding addresses list between a service node and Service Control Point (SCP)." Referring to Fig. 2 of the present application, it can be seen that the claimed service node (e.g., MSC 100) and SCP 500 need not necessarily communicate via the IP network 200; e.g., a path exists through signal transfer point 40. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully submits that claim 12 is consistent with the present disclosure, and complies with sec. 112. Withdrawal of the rejection of claim 12, and of claims 12-16 and 23 dependent thereon, under sec. 112 is accordingly respectfully requested.

Finally, claim 2 was rejected under 35 USC 112 as not reciting an antecedent for "said alternative network". Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully submitted in view of the amendment to claim 2 set forth above.

Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over the admitted prior art in view of Hartmaier (US 6,034,753). To establish a prima facie case of obviousness under § 103, all claim limitations of a claimed invention must be taught or suggested by the prior art. See MPEP, § 2143.03 and *In re Royka*, 490 F.2d 981, 180 USPQ 580 (CCPA 1974). In view of the foregoing authority, the Applicant respectfully submits that the cited reference fails to support the asserted rejection for at least the reason that it does not teach or suggest determining, at a service node, a subscriber-independent address communicable with by an alternative network and associated with a wireless service, as required by claim 1.

The Hartmaier disclosure relates to registering a mobile unit with a data network such as the Internet by assigning the mobile unit a TIP (temporary IP) while

it is registered with a given MSC (mobile switching center). The mobile unit further has a permanent IP (PIP) address that uniquely identifies it to the data network. See Hartmaier, col. 4, lines 19-42. The mobile unit may request services from the data network, and the data network routes packet data to the mobile unit in response to the request via the TIP and PIP (see col. 6, lines 35 et seq.). Thus, the address used in the Hartmaier system is completely dependent on the mobile unit.

According to the present invention as recited in claim 1, on the other hand, an address communicable with by an alternative network and associated with the wireless service is subscriber-independent. More specifically, the address corresponds to an MSC, not a subscriber, and is used by the MSC in support of a service or services for subscribers in general. See, for example, the present specification at page 6, lines 12-13: "... service information could instead be carried via the IP network to an IP address for MSC 100"; and the paragraph bridging lines 6 and 7: "... the S-MSC ... can designate to the HLR an IP network address ... at which the serving MSC can receive information to support the providing of this service to any mobile station with which it is in communication." Thus, the arrangement according to the present invention may be more efficient than that described in Hartmaier, since it does not require the complicated, subscriber-specific registration process described in Hartmaier.


In view of the above, claim 1 is allowable over Hartmaier. Claim 2, since it incorporates the limitations of claim 1 by dependency, is therefore likewise allowable for at least the reasons discussed in connection with claim 1. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1 and 2 under 35 USC 103(a) is respectfully requested.

In light of the foregoing discussion, the Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in all aspects in allowable condition, and earnestly solicits favorable reconsideration and early issuance of a Notice of Allowance.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (202) 220-4323 to discuss any matter concerning this application. The Office is authorized to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 or 1.17 related to this communication to Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION OF AMENDMENTS WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Three times amended) A method of transferring information between a subscriber and an information source or recipient as part of a wireless service, comprising the steps of:

receiving a registration request for the subscriber at a service node;

determining, at the service node, [an] a subscriber-independent address communicable with by an alternative network and associated with the wireless service; and

transferring information between the subscriber and the information source or recipient [wireless service] using the determined address.

2. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein an alternative network corresponding to said alternative network address is selected from the group consisting of a connection-oriented network and a connectionless network.

12. (Three times amended) A method of using an alternative network to provide wireless services comprising:

determining a list of wireless services to be offered to a subscriber;

identifying a corresponding list of addresses communicable with by an alternative network for each service;

communicating the wireless services list and the corresponding addresses list between a service node and a [Serving] Service Control Point (SCP).